

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3298
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2008
QUALITY OF EDUCATION
Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the mechanism devised by the Government to test the quality of education imparted in English medium schools in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has any basis to conduct comparative study of schools in the country with those of developed countries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to promote critical thinking and develop practical skills among the school children; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIM.A.A. FATMI)

- (a) Government has not conducted any study regarding the quality of education imparted in the English medium schools. However, Government of India conducts its own pupil learning achievement surveys under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) through National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). The surveys aim to track changes in learning achievement levels of students and to give a national picture of the status of students' learning levels.
- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) and (e) National Curriculum Framework (NCF) - 2005, lays special emphasis on the primacy of children's experiences and their active involvement in the process of learning. The use of pedagogy to promote critical thinking among children thereby, leading them away from rote learning to a reflection of their own ways of understanding and learning is an important step towards improving school education. The syllabi and textbooks developed by, NCERT on the basis of NCF-2005 signify an attempt to implement the basic idea of a child-centered system of education outlined in the National Policy on Education.